

# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### FCSO Recognizes 2020 Annual Award Winners

#### *Law Enforcement, Correctional Officer, and Civilians of the Year Recognized*

**FREDERICK, Md. (July 9, 2021)** – Much like the rest of the nation, COVID-19 impacted the normalcy of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), to include recognizing those team members who went above and beyond in 2020. Recently, the law enforcement and corrections bureaus of FCSO conducted their respective awards ceremonies, recognizing the law enforcement, corrections, and civilians of the year.

The FCSO law enforcement officer of the year is **Deputy 1st Class Amber Owens**. In 2020, Owens served as the FCSO Community Services deputy and handled more than 70 community events. When things slowed down due to the pandemic, she stepped up and assisted with the unique, deputy-only, 24-hour call center, answering calls for service within the community. She supported FCSO Patrol Operations by serving protective orders, peace orders and extreme risk protective orders. Certified in the Project Lifesaver program, Owens conducted nearly 110 battery changes for clients. Additionally, the deputy is heavily involved in Special Olympics. In what is the biggest honor and recognition of her dedication and perseverance, Special Olympics selected her to represent the United States of America in the 2022 Special Olympics, as part of the Torch Run, which will take place throughout Russia.

The FCSO correctional officer of the year is **Correctional Officer 1st Class Johnathan Schurr**. In 2020, Schurr complete more than 100 hours of overtime in shift coverage and more than 30 hours of overtime in assisting the Transportation Unit, ensuring the Frederick County Adult Detention Center (FCADC) continued full operations without a stop in the day-to-day procedures. The correctional officer is a certified Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions instructor and taught courses at the Frederick County Corrections Academy. On four documented occasions throughout the year, Schurr was directly involved in thwarting attempts to deliver contraband into the detention center. His attention to detail resulted in multiple occurrences of catching liquid controlled dangerous substances on postcards to inmates. In November, he assisted in the shakedown of a cell and his due diligence led to the recovery of multiple items of contraband to include homemade alcohol and a homemade stabbing weapon.

The FCSO law enforcement bureau civilian of the year is **Ms. Karyn Myers**. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Myers was to work from home like the rest of the Frederick County civilian employees. Instead of doing that, she safely worked from a local Division of Fire & Rescue Services facility where she could get on a county computer. Here she continued to remain current with tow log issues, vehicle releases, patrol check and selective enforcement logs, patrol team inventories, noise meter inquiries and issuances and Fit tests. Myers assisted FCSO Personnel Services, on numerous occasions, with physical testing for new recruits and lateral hires. Recognizing the need for Criminal Justice Information Services Division (CJIS) recertification and given the fact the State was cancelling classes, she scheduled and taught classes ensuring all deputies were properly certified. Word of this spread throughout the county and Myers began CJIS training for the FCSO corrections bureau, Emergency Communications Center, and State's Attorney's Office.

The FCSO corrections bureau civilian of the year is **Mr. Duane Hine**. As the FCADC Records Unit manager and in response to the pandemic, Hine worked a modified work schedule and single-handedly managed the division for more than five months while both of his assistants were on COVID-19 related leave. During this period and along with his daily duties, he maintained all inmate base files, conducted all inmate intake reviews, and reviewed all of the Jail Management System database entries for accuracy. An expert in his career, Hine was hand selected to be on a panel responsible for reviewing, analyzing, and providing input on six proposals for a new Jail Management System. As a liaison between the local courts, out-of-county courts, and other state agencies, Hine was responsible for reviewing, interpreting, and ensuring all legal documents were accurate. Upon finding any discrepancies, he diligently worked with the appropriate court authorities to rectify all issues, ensuring a smooth process for all parties involved.

Additionally, the FCSO presented 34 outstanding performance, eight lifesaving, three leadership, and two valor awards, along with two unit citations and one special appreciation award.

*The Frederick County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) is a full-service law enforcement agency; an arm of the court, and a keeper of offenders. In this regard, it exists to serve the more than 250,000 citizens of Frederick County with respect, fairness, and compassion. FCSO is committed to the prevention of crime; the protection of life and property; the preservation of peace and order; the enforcement of laws and ordinances; the safeguarding of constitutional guarantees; and safekeeping of prisoners. The men, women, and officers of this office nurture public trust by holding themselves to the highest standards of performance and ethics. The FCSO is located at 110 Airport Drive East, Frederick, MD, 21701. Visit [www.frederickcosheriff.com](http://www.frederickcosheriff.com) for more information.*

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